IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO



NOTICE TO COUNSEL NO. 05-20

SENTENCING ADVOCACY ("MITIGATION") SEMINAR DECEMBER 5, 2005

The Criminal Justice Act Committee, the Federal Public Defender and the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico are co-sponsoring a Sentencing Advocacy ("Mitigation") Seminar, to be held on Monday, December 5, 2005 at the Centro de Banquetes Los Chavales, Ave. F.D. Roosevelt 253, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico. The conference will commence at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 p.m. Registration will start promptly at 8:30 a.m. The program includes mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks as well as lunch at noontime. This program is open to all members of the Bar of this Court who are in good standing, at no charge. Spaces are limited and reservations will be made on a first-come, first serve basis.

The seminar will be conducted by Mr. Ira Mickenberg, Esq. He will develop an interactive program covering the topics of: (a) brainstorming and developing the facts of a case that are pertinent to mitigation, (b) developing a theory of defense and a persuasive storyline for sentencing, (c) the defense pre-sentence report, and (d) the sentence hearing.

Professor Mickenberg, a public defender training consultant and criminal defense attorney, is a graduate of New York University, School of Law (J.D. 1975, LL.M. 1982). He has served as a trainer for individual public defender agencies and is Director of the National Defender Training Project, which conducts annual national public defender training programs. He litigates appellate, post judgment convictions and trial cases involving serious crimes at federal and state levels and has been certified as an expert witness and testified in federal courts on the subject of effective assistance of appellate counsel. He has taught at Williams College, American University, University of Dayton School of Law and New York Law School, among others.

Only members of the Bar in good standing may attend this seminar (i.e., who are current in the annual bar membership fee payments – see 28 U. S. C. 1914 (b)(c)). This is an extraordinary training and continuing legal education opportunity for both novice and seasoned practitioners. Attendance is limited to 200 seats that shall be reserved on a first come, first served basis. For reservations please contact Mr. José Aponte, Systems Programer, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, Clerk's Office, at (787) 772-3079 or email at: jose_aponte@prd.uscourts.gov (the e-mail request MUST include full name and bar number). Reservations must be made on or before November 18, 2005. Cancellations must be made on or before November 25, 2005.

In order to maximize the spaces available and avoid last minute no-shows, the Court expressly restricts participation to those attorneys who commit themselves to full participation during the whole program. Any attorney with a reserved space who fails to attend will be required to explain the absence to the Court, in writing, as non-attendance will result in depriving another willing applicant from securing a seat. The Office of the Clerk will be issuing notices with confirmation of seats shortly after the registration period expires. Only attorneys with seats confirmed by the Office of the Clerk shall attend the seminar. Confirmation of seats is non-transferable.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 4th day of November, 2005,

FRANCES RIOS DE MORAN

CLERK OF COURT